GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:462
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2015
Weather Forecasting Agencies
George Shri (Adv.) Joice

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether private agencies are involved in weather forecasts in the country and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether significant differences exist between the prediction of private agencies and Indian Meteorological Department and if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether such agencies are prone to fudging data and if so, the details thereof; and
(d) whether the Government has any regulatory framework over such agencies and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

The MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY)

(a) Yes Madam. Sky Met Weather Services is involved in weather forecasts in the country. However, Earth System Science Organization−India Meteorological Department (ESSO-IMD) is the national agency for issuing long range forecast for the country.
(b) Government is aware that Sky Met Weather Services has predicted seasonal rainfall of 102% of Long Period Average (LPA) for the 2015 southwest monsoon, whereas Earth System Science Organisation−India Meteorological Department (ESSO-IMD) has predicted monsoon 2015 seasonal rainfall of 88% of LPA Â±4% model error and the season (June-September) rainfall over the country as a whole was 86% of its LPA.
(c) Private Weather Services have no data network of their own. They work on information available on public domain. Fudging of data is not possible.
(d) As of now, no regulatory framework exists over such agencies.